



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health • Epidemiology Section**

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January 11, 2002

To: Organizations and Individuals in North Carolina Covered by the Biological Agents Registry Law

From: Dr. J. Steven Cline, Chief and Acting BT Coordinator
Epidemiology Section
Division of Public Health

Subject: Biological Agents Registry Compliance Information

In response to the potential threat of biological terrorism (BT) the North Carolina General Assembly passed a law that requires the registration of potentially dangerous biological agents. This legislation was enacted because of the recent anthrax attacks last fall. Effective January 10, 2002, the State of North Carolina now requires that organizations or individuals who possess and maintain a biological agent listed as select agents in Federal Register 42 C.F.R. Part 72 to notify the Office of the North Carolina BT Coordinator. The purpose of this letter is to inform individuals and organizations who may be covered by this law. Included with this memorandum is the registry law, rules, and reporting form with instructions. A list of the current reportable biological agents is included in the instructions. This compliance information is also posted on the North Carolina Epidemiology web-site at: <http://www.schs.state.nc.us/epi/index.html>. Please visit this site to obtain current information regarding the biological agents registry and what your state health department is doing to address the threat of bioterrorism in North Carolina.

The information that is reported to the BT Coordinator for the Biological Agents Registry will be strictly confidential and can only be released by order of the State Health Director upon a finding that the release is necessary for the conduct of a disease investigation or for the investigation of a release, theft or loss of a biological agent.

Please contact us at (919) 733-3421 should you have questions. Direct all correspondence to:

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Encl.

